

A-70036

Claims

13. An expression vector comprising:
 - a) nucleic acid encoding a Heparin-Binding Epidermal growth factor-like Growth Factor (HBEGF);
 - b) nucleic acid encoding a Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP).
14. An expression vector according to claim 13 further comprising:
 - a) an internal ribosome entry site (IRES).
15. An expression vector according to claim 14 wherein said IRES site is between said nucleic acid encoding said HBEGF and said nucleic acid encoding said GFP.
16. An expression vector according to claim 13 or 15 wherein said nucleic acid encoding said GFP is downstream of said nucleic acid encoding said HBEGF.
17. An expression vector according to claim 14 further comprising a 2a site.
18. An expression vector according to claim 17 further comprising a CD9 site.
19. An expression vector according to claim 13 or 17 further comprising:
 - a) a selection gene.
20. An expression vector according to claim 14 or 18 further comprising a promoter of interest fused to said nucleic acid encoding said HBEGF.
21. An expression vector comprising:
 - a) nucleic acid encoding a HBEGF;
 - b) nucleic acid encoding an IRES site.
22. An expression vector according to claim 21 further comprising:
 - a) a selection gene.
23. An expression vector according to claim 21 further comprising a CD9 site.
24. An expression vector according to claim 21 further comprising a promoter of interest fused to said nucleic acid encoding said HBEGF.
25. An expression vector comprising from 5' to 3':
 - a) a nucleic acid encoding HBEGF;
 - b) a 2a site;
 - c) a nucleic acid encoding GFP;

Serial No.: Not Assigned
Filed: September 27, 2001

- d) an IRES site;
- e) a promoter of interest.

26. An expression vector according to claim 25 further comprising a CD9 gene downstream of said IRES site.

27. An expression vector according to claim 25 further comprising a selection gene downstream of said IRES site.

28. An expression vector comprising from 5' to 3':

- a) a nucleic acid encoding HBEGF;
- b) an IRES site;
- c) a promoter of interest.

29. An expression vector according to claim 28 further comprising a CD9 gene downstream of said IRES site.

30. An expression vector according to claim 28 further comprising a GFP gene downstream of said IRES site.

31. An expression vector according to claim 28 further comprising a selection gene downstream of said IRES site.

32. An expression vector according to claim 19, 22, 27 or 31 wherein said selection gene is a drug resistance gene conferring resistance to drugs selected from the group consisting of puromycin, neomycin, blastocidin, bleomycin and hygromycin.

33. An expression vector according to claim 20, 24, 25 or 28 wherein said promoter of interest is an IL-4 promoter.

34. An expression vector according to claims 13, 25 or 30 wherein said GFP is a *Renilla Mulleri* GFP.

35. An expression vector according to claims 13, 25 or 30 wherein said GFP is a *Pitiliosarcus Gurneyi* GFP.

36. An expression vector according to claims 13, 25 or 30 wherein said GFP is an *Aequorea* GFP.

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37. An expression vector according to claims 13, 21, 25 or 28 wherein said expression vector is a retroviral vector.